



**AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION, ISLAMABAD**

MEDIA RELEASE

17 April 2013

***'Australia Day in Spring'* returns to Lahore  
Featuring Sydney performers 'Chrome'**

The Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan Peter Heyward opened the Australia Day in Spring reception at the Avari Hotel, Lahore, today (Wednesday, 17 April 2013).

Mr Heyward said that Australia Day in Spring would further strengthen Australia-Pakistan ties in the Punjab and show the diversity of Australian art and culture.

Australia Day in Spring in Lahore will feature a performance by unique Australian humorous singing trio "Chrome" from Sydney. Consisting of talented performers Craig Fortey, Graeme Rhodes and Paul Wilson, Chrome has performed at many prestigious arts and cultural events and expositions including the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai.

"I am sure our Pakistani guests will love Chrome's unique style," High Commissioner Mr Heyward said.

The High Commissioner was joined at the event by Australian Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner for South Asia, Ms Nicola Watkinson, who is making her first visit to Pakistan.

"The visit of Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner Watkinson to Punjab, the industrial and agricultural hub of Pakistan, is a signal that we are serious about further developing trade and investment opportunities here," Mr Heyward said.

"Australia recognises the many challenges confronting Pakistan, and is therefore making a significant contribution to efforts to achieve peace and stability through partnerships in military training, counter-terrorism and countering trans-national crime, and overseas development assistance."

Australia's prominent Honorary Consul in the Punjab, Mr Salim Ghauri, CEO of the award-winning IT exporter Netsol also assisted the High Commissioner at Australia Day in Spring at the Avari Hotel Lahore.

Mr Heyward thanked the major sponsors of Australia Day in Spring, BHP Billiton and Thai Airways. He also appreciated the support extended by AEO Pakistan, AusPak International, Austrex, Coca Cola, EchoWest, Elders, Navitas, Netsol, RMT Enterprises and SMEC.

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